

WINNER PROFILE



➔ **Meet: Elena Lucas**
Co-founder and CEO, UtilityAPI
Oakland, California

➔ **The Challenge: SunShot Catalyst**

The U.S. Department of Energy uses this series of prizes to seek solutions that propel the rapid creation and development of products addressing challenges in the U.S. solar marketplace. The ultimate goal is to make it easier and faster for innovators to launch cutting-edge solar companies.

➔ **The Prize:**
\$30,000 (eligible for up to \$70,000 more in funding from the Energy Department)

💡 **The Solution:**
UtilityAPI automates utility data acquisition for solar companies so they can accurately size solar energy systems for customers based on previous electricity usage.

SUCCESS: IN HER OWN WORDS

How has participating in this challenge helped you advance your solution?

The SunShot Catalyst program validated our idea and the impact it will have on the industry. Having non-dilutive funding from the government is a way to prove to private capital that an idea has merit.

What is the impact of your solution for government, your community, and society?

Our solution is reducing the soft costs of solar and other new energy technologies. Having lower soft costs accelerates the adoption of distributed renewable assets and energy efficiency, thereby reducing carbon emissions and addressing climate change.

📞 **For More About the Winner:**

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